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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT [REDACTED]

TOPIC Arrival at the Dessau Training Area of Engineer Units of the GDR

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 20 May 1954

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

25X1

1. Between 19 April and 7 May 1954, shipments arriving in the Rossau area and definitely or presumably bound for the engineer training site on the northern bank of the Elbe River, southeast of Rossau, included:
 - 19 April. A train carrying 25 trucks, 4 amphibious vehicles and 2 field kitchens, and coming from the direction of Dessau.
 - 20 April. A train carrying about 26 trucks and 4 amphibious vehicles, and coming from Dessau.
 - 22 April. A column of motor vehicles [REDACTED] which went to the training area from Rossau.
 - 4 May. Major columns of motor vehicles carrying troops, 40 truckloads of heavy bridge building equipment pontoons and 3 motorboats [REDACTED] coming from the direction of Zerbst and proceeding to the training area southeast of Rossau.
 - 6 May. A column of 8 to 10 trucks carrying troops and equipment [REDACTED] coming from the direction of Zerbst and proceeding to the training area southeast of Rossau.
 - 7 May. A train carrying 9 to 10 boxcarloads of troops and an undetermined number of motor vehicles including 2 with motorboats. The shipment was observed in Dessau.¹
2. On 8 May, the engineer training area southeast of Rossau was occupied by about 2,000 troops who bivouacked in 180 to 200 tents. Low wooden buildings were being erected. Two units, each of battalion strength, practiced the construction of landing stages with emergency construction material near river kilometermarks 255 and 256. Bridge-building equipment for about 5 bridges was stored near river kilometermark 255.¹
3. On 8 May, the engineer training area south of Brambach on the southern bank of the Elbe River was occupied, apparently not to capacity by 600 to 800 troops. [REDACTED] One-story temporary buildings were being erected.²
4. [REDACTED] the cantonment at Gross Kuehnau was being dismantled with the sections of the buildings being shipped to the water training sites southeast of Rossau and south of Brambach and to the barracks installations in Rossau. 25X1
1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] prior to 7 May, the 30th Pan Bridge Regt of the GDR from Magdeburg transferred to the training area southeast of Rossau, where it conducted summer training also in preceding years. The departure from Magdeburg of this regiment had been

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- 2 -

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Comment. In preceding years, the training area south of Brambach, also referred to as training area on HirschleckerGemm, was occupied by the unidentified engineer regiment of the GCRG from Bernburg. It appears as if not all shipments of the regiment had arrived at the training area by 8 May. A train which may have carried elements of the regiment went from Zossen to Aken on 6 May. This shipment is believed to have involved elements of the regiment, which participated in courses in Sporenberg and, from there, directly went to the summer camps.

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